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76-6578

27 January 1976

Lieutenant General Vernon A. Walters, USA.  
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence  
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Dick:

As I turn the post of Director of Central Intelligence over to the exceedingly capable hands of George Bush, I would like to thank you and your entire organization for your support and cooperation in the United States Intelligence Board and the Intelligence Resources Advisory Committee. During this period when the Intelligence Community has faced major challenges, both in its mission and from exposure and criticism, I believe it has held together as a true Community. This has enabled it not only to weather the storm, but to continue to produce what I call with confidence the best intelligence in the world. The major reason for this lies in the talent, dedication and cooperation of the people in the Community, and especially the members of the USIB and IRAC. We have agreed, we have differed, and we have discussed in the frank and straightforward way that we in intelligence believe essential to meet the problems of the world around us. I thank you for your personal support of me, but I also thank you for your great contribution to our country during the time that I was privileged to serve it.

Sincerely,

STATINTL

[Redacted Signature]

W. E. Colby

DDCI

*\* I'm tempted not to send this too formal note to you, but I couldn't possibly omit a thanks to the major contributors - CIA*

STATINTL

[Redacted Signature]

MR Colby  
IC Reg  
CS/ICS  
ER